

NOTEWORTHY



After a yearlong celebration of 50 years of social work education, I've learned we have as much to celebrate as we have work to do to achieve social, racial, economic, and political justice. I am honored to serve as Dean to help guide the College **ONWARD** to The Next Fifty Years as we continue our tradition of advocacy, activism, and responsiveness to current issues, which require both our leadership and unique social work perspective. This fall, just as we did last year, we welcomed our largest-ever incoming class of MSW students. And so, it is with pride and abiding hope that we enter our 51st year at the GCSW poised to build on our past for an even brighter future for all who champion social work values.

In this edition of Noteworthy, we celebrate the achievements and successes of the 2018–2019 academic year. I am proud to share faculty research situated firmly in our vision, student achievements that advance its cause, illustrious alumni who work in every possible iteration of the social justice sphere with excellence and innovation, and community partners who show up in partnership with us to fight for a common goal, social justice for all.

And finally, a note on our cover. To bridge the past with our future, we are highlighting the work of GCSW students, alumni, and community activists in a series of striking portraits by artist Anat Ronen where the subjects appear alongside their social justice inspirations. Throughout the year, we will continue to unveil portraits of those whose work spans the breadth of today's social justice issues. In the great tradition of art serving as a canvas to raise awareness and champion social change, the paintings are an invitation for others to learn more about these talented, dynamic, and determined modern-day activists. They are proof positive that social justice work, throughout its history, is carried forth by ordinary citizens who dream of better lives for us all and then fight for it.

For though we know the fight for social justice is far from over, we are inspired by the work being done by those in our very own community each and every day. By sharing their stories, we hope to inspire others to join the social justice movement that stokes their passions and commitment. **We can only hope to achieve justice for all through the work of many dedicated people determined to dream of and work for a more just world.**

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Dettlaff".

Alan Dettlaff, PhD, MSW

Dean and Maconda Brown O'Connor Endowed Dean's Chair